

**PATENT APPLICATION**  
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q77369

USUI, Minoru, et al.

Divisional of  
Appln. No.: 09/574,015

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Confirmation No.: Unknown

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: September 16, 2003

For: LIQUID CONSUMPTION STATUS DETECTING METHOD, LIQUID CONTAINER,  
AND INK CARTRIDGE

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

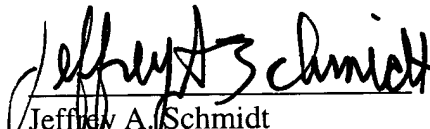
In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form which are all the references of record in parent application No. 09/574,015. Applicants are not submitting duplicate copies of these references but requests that they be listed on the face of any patent granted on the above application. (See 37 CFR §1.98(d)). Copies of any cited copending applications, if not previously submitted, are being submitted herewith. Further, Applicants cite to the patents or printed publications for the related US applications. According to the procedure for applications filed after June 23, 2003, no copies of these documents are being provided.

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**Div. of Appln. No. 09/574,015**

**Atty Dkt No. Q77369**

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Registration No. 41,574

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: September 16, 2003

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
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				First Named Inventor	USUI, Minoru
				Art Unit	Unknown
				Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet	1	of	5	Attorney Docket Number	Q77369

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US 2002/0015068	A1	2-7-2002	Tsukada et al.
		US 2002/0135623	A1	9-26-2002	Tsukada et al.
		US 5,689,288		11-18-1997	Wimmer et al.
		US 5,774,136		6-30-1998	Barbehenn et al.
		4,811,595		3-1989	Marciniak et al.
		5,975,102		11-2-1999	Schalk et al.
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		6,089,686	A	7-18-2000	Thornton et al.
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		US 5,586,085		12-17-1996	Lichte
		US 6,312,074		11-2001	Ray A. Walker
		US 6,164,744		12-2000	Froger et al.
		US 5,353,631		10-1994	Woringer et al.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		EP	684,136	A2	11-29-1995		
		FR	2,572,519	A1	5-2-1986		
		WO	98/09139	A1	3-5-1998		
		JP	58-205820	A	11-30-1983		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Patent Abstracts of Japan for publication No. 02-034353, Vol. 014, 186 (M-0962), February 5, 1990, Cannon Inc.	
		Patent Abstracts of Japan, for publication No. 07-081290, Vol. 1995, No. 06 March 28, 19956 Pentel KK	

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		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US 6,470,744	B1	10-29-2002	USUI, et al.
		US 2002/0012015	A1	01-31-2002	TSUKADA, et al.
		US 2002/0015084	A1	02-07-2002	TSUKADA, et al.
		US 2002/0170353	A1	11-21-2002	USUI, et al.
		US 6,536,861	B1	3-25-2003	USUI et al.
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		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		JP	10-305590		11-17-1998		
		EP	1,088,668	A1	4-4-2001		
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		JP	7-137276	A	5-30-1995		

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		English language abstract No. Hei 10-305590 November 17, 1998	
		Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 1998, No. 5, April 30, 1998	
		Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 1995, No. 8, September 29, 1995	
		Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 2000, NO. 14, March 5, 2001	

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		US 4,811,595		3/14/1989	Marciniak et al.
		US 4,770,038		9/13/1988	Zuckerwar et al.
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		US 4,796,782		1/10/1989	Wales et al.

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		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		WO	98/31548		7/23/1998	Hewlett-Packard Company	
		JP	63247047		10/13/1988	Canon Inc.	Abstract
		GB	2 304 898		3/26/1997	The Whitaker Corporation	
		WO	98/09139		3/5/1998	The General Electric Company	
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		EP	0 803 364		10/29/1997	Canon Inc.	
		EP	1 088 668		4/4/2001	Hewlett-Packard Company	
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		JP	07137276		5/30/1995	Canon Inc.	Abstract
		EP	0 853 236		7/15/1998	Smiths Industries Public Limited Co.	
		JP	04135862		5/11/1992	Seikosha Co. Ltd.	Abstract
		JP	10-305590		11/17/1998	Matsushita Electric Co., Ltd.	Abstract
		WO	99/42293		8/26/1999	Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing Co.	
		EP	0 660 092		6/28/1995	Canon Inc.	
		EP	0 553 535		8/4/1993	Seiko Epson Corporation	
		JP	2000318183		11/21/2000	Sony Corporation	Abstract

### OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

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		US 2002/0105555, published 8/8/2002 to Tsukada et al.	

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		US 5,410,518		4/25/1995	Birkett
		US 4,594,891		6/17/1986	Benz et al.
		US 6,302,527		10/16/2001	Walker
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